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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/821,267

03/29/2001

Kazutoyo Machiro

P23938

4470

7055 7590 07/11/2007
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EXAMINER

DOAN, DUYN MY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2152

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/11/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

gbpatent@gbpatent.com
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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/821,267

Applicant(s)

MAEHIRO ET AL.

Examiner

Duyen M. Doan

Art Unit

2152

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,10 and 13-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5,10 and 13-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/29/2007 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to the submission filed on 4/26/2007. Claims 1,4-5,10,13-16 are presented for examination. Claims 2-3,6-9,11-12,17-18 are cancelled.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,4-5,10,13-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 1,4-5, 10, 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaji (us pat 5,268,839) in view of Schumacher et al (us pat 6,532,442) (hereinafter Schu) and further in view of Hansted (us 2002/0006826).

As regarding claim 1, Kaji discloses a translation system for communication between speakers of different languages. The system comprises the first terminal and the second terminal (see Kaji figure 1, terminal 1 and terminal 2); both of the terminals having storages (see Kaji figure 1, storage 12 in terminal 1 and storage 22 in terminal 2) to store dictionaries (see Kaji col.5, lines 33-67; col.6, lines 11-57). Kaji does not disclose first data sets in which words or phrases are matched to respective identifier and second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meaning as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets. However, the concept of using words match to respective identifier and allow translation between different languages by utilizing the identifier as a key to look up word that has the same meaning in different languages is well known in the art. For example Schu teaches a system using words matched to respective identifier and allow translation between different languages by utilizing the identifier as a key to look up word that has the same meaning in different languages (see Schu figure 1, object id 0034126 for the word television in English dictionary is corresponding to the same object id 0034126 in German dictionary and has the word television in German which is Fernsehen).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Schu to the system of Kaji to include

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identifier corresponding to word for the purpose of easy manipulation and storage retrieval (see Schu col.3, lines 48-57).

The combination of Kaji-Schu discloses the invention substantially as claimed, however, Kaji-Schu does not disclose a receiver that receives message from the second information processing apparatus when a user of the second information processing apparatus has affirmatively accepted the transmitted message. However the concept of sending a confirmation back when the receiver of the second apparatus has accepted the message is a well-known concept in the communication art. For example Han teaches a receiver that receives message from the second information processing when a user of the second information processing apparatus has affirmatively accepted the transmitted message (see Han pg.5, par 0118-0120, the desired user (recipient) can accept the invitation, the user (sender) will get the confirmation of his invitation).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Han to the system of Kaji-Schu to send the message back to the sender to notify the sender that the recipient has accepted the invitation, for the purpose of ensuring the status of the invitation this would benefit the sender in the way that the sender know exactly if his invitation was accepted or rejected by the recipient.

As regarding claim 4, Kaji-Schu-Hansted discloses wherein the words or phrases of the first and the second storage devices are grouped into different categories and then

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stored in the first and the second storage devices, respectively (see Kaji col.5, lines 33-67; col.6, lines 11-57).

As regarding claim 5, the limitations of claim 5 are similar to limitations of rejected claim 1, therefore rejected for the same rationale as claim 1.

As regarding claim 10, the limitations of claim 10 are similar to limitations of rejected claim 4, therefore rejected for the same rationale as claim 1.

As regarding claim 13-16, the limitations of claim 5 are similar to limitations of rejected claim 1, therefore rejected for the same rationale as claim 1.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duyen M. Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4226. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Examiner
Duyen Doan
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit', with a date '7/5/7' written to the right.

BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER